

SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA

the Pope for his life-time should make the priors of the Republic his vicars, after they had formally surrendered the keys of the city to the commissaries of the Cardinal Legate, in sign and recognition of which they were to pay, during the life of the Pope, an annual tribute of 3,000 gold florins. The Perugians were still doubting about the meaning of the clause that spoke of the creation of vicars as only for the life-time of the Pope, while the recognition of the Church's sovereignty was perpetual, when Urban died, and the legate, Anglico de Grimoard, had no further powers to act. But the exiles who had been restored raised fresh tumults, the city lacked provisions, and Cardinal d'Estaing, confirmed in his legation by the new Pope, entered Perugia in triumph, on May 19, 1371, welcomed by the priors and citizens with palms and olive-branches.¹

Thus, in appearance, was the work of Albornoz completed in the first year of the pontificate of Gregory XI ; but it was to prove a house built on sand, with no sure foundation in the love of the subjects that ostensibly accepted the papal rule. The year of Urban's desertion of Italy is the year of Catherine's entry into public life. The new pontiff, gentle, scholarly, sickly and suffering in his body, well-meaning, but weak and irresolute, fickle, and at times unexpectedly hard and obstinate, was to encounter the spiritual force of her whom He, whose vicar on earth he claimed to be, had wedded to Himself in the mystic bond of perfect Faith.

¹ Cf. Pellini, *Historiadi Perugia*, I. pp. 1080-1085 ; Supplement to Graziani's Chronicle, pp. 208-217 ; Montemarte, *Cronaca di Orvieto*, I. p. 39.